

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments and remarks submitted herein. Claim 1 has been amended, and claims 7-12 have been canceled. Applicants thank the Examiner for the telephone conference of November 22, 2004, in which the amendment to claim 1 shown herein was discussed. Reconsideration of the pending application is respectfully requested.

The 35 U.S.C. §112 Rejections

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as the Examiner asserted that those claims contain subject matter that was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and/or use the invention.

Without acquiescing to the Examiner's rejection, Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite a method for "reducing A $\beta$ -induced inflammation" rather than a method for "treating Alzheimer's disease..." As discussed in the telephone conference of November 22, 2004, Example 1 on pages 44-56 describes experiments in which VCP was able to reduce A $\beta$ -induced inflammation in a mouse connective tissue air pouch model. See, for example, page 44, lines 19-21. The Examiner indicated in the November 22, 2004 telephone conference that the proposed amendment is more descriptive of the invention and that this amendment would likely obviate the rejection. Therefore, in view of the amendments and remarks herein, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 1-6. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account 06-1050.

Date:

January 6, 2005

Fish & Richardson P.C., P.A.  
60 South Sixth Street, Suite 3300  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
Telephone: (612) 335-5070  
Facsimile: (612) 288-9696  
60252636.doc

Respectfully submitted,



M. Angela Parsons, Ph.D.  
Reg. No. 44,282